

county and industry leaders in saluting Michael Pollack for his efforts and his contributions to the business community. I wish him well in the years to come.

MEMORIAL TO JACQUES
LESSTRANG

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to honor the memory of Jacques LesStrang, whose lifetime of accomplishments included worldwide recognition as an author and expert on the Great Lakes and the founder of Harbor House Publishers. Mr. LesStrang passed away on December 5, at the age of 75.

Jacques LesStrang was one of the nation's outstanding and most widely quoted authors on the Great Lakes. He wrote six books on subjects ranging from international trade to maritime and political history, to U.S.-Canadian relations. His book "Seaway," which chronicled the history of the St. Lawrence Seaway, was a Book-of-the-Month Club selection. He began publishing the widely respected and internationally distributed maritime journal, *Seaway Review*, in 1969 and served as Editor-in-Chief for 24 years. He founded the successful regional firm Harbor House Publishers, and served as CEO until 1990. In addition, Mr. LesStrang published economic reports for the U.S. Congress and the Canadian Parliament and wrote the script for the 1993 PBS documentary, "Inward Passage." He was named "Maritime Writer of the Year" by the U.S. Propeller Club and "Great Lakes Man of the Year" by the governors of the eight Great Lakes states and premiers of the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

In recent years, Mr. LesStrang served as the CEO of the LesStrang Group, a Christian publishing and marketing firm in Palm Desert, California. LesStrang was also the former president and creative director of an international advertising and marketing agency with offices in Michigan and London, England. He served as an international marketing consultant to the State of Michigan, heading trade missions to Europe to generate business for the state. In addition, he managed a number of successful state and national political campaigns for congressional and gubernatorial candidates, including former Michigan Governors William Milliken and George Romney. Mr. LesStrang's work on international marketing, government, and the maritime industry has been published in 16 languages.

Born in Pittsburgh, raised by his mother, Ada, LesStrang developed a lifelong love of literature and music, which he shared with his seven children and eleven grandchildren. LesStrang served in the Air Force in World War II and as a military journalist at Scott Field in St. Louis. He received degrees from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and the University of Michigan.

Perhaps Jacques LesStrang's greatest legacy is the family he raised with his wife Barbara. Many of the members of the California Congressional Delegation will attest to the hard work and dedication of his son, Dave LesStrang, who is my deputy chief of staff and

served as the staff member to the California Republican Delegation for many years. In the last days of his life, Jacques LesStrang was joined by Dave and his other children—Michelle Cortright of Boyne City, Michigan; Diane Mathias of Palm Desert, California; Steve Marcks of Carlsbad, California; Paul LesStrang of Ringle, Wisconsin; Linda Keefer of Ridgefield, Connecticut; and Christian LesStrang of San Francisco, California—along with his 11 grandchildren and great-grandson.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending condolences to the family of Jacques LesStrang and in remembering his many achievements.

MARION: A COMMUNITY OF
CHARACTER

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, at a time when America has rediscovered the power of traditional virtues, I bring to your attention an inspiring project that students in Marion in the Fourth Congressional District of Ohio have undertaken.

Students at the Elgin Junior and Senior High Schools have embraced President George W. Bush's "Community of Character" initiative. The Elgin Energizer Show Choir, under the direction of Tanyce J. Addison, is highlighting the theme of character during its music programs. The students are performing public concerts, including one entitled "A Concert of Character," that have inspired children and adults alike. These performances are sending a positive message about the importance of good character and moral conduct.

Setting an example for her students, Ms. Addison secured a \$500 "Music With Character" grant that has allowed students to share their musical gifts with the community. Other projects have included a concert with a drug-free message, and a collection of student essays and poetry. According to Ms. Addison, these events "have been tremendously accepted by the students and the community. We have many more activities planned to continue on."

In praise of this project, the principal at Elgin High School, Robert A. Britton, wrote, "We here in the Elgin Local School District are making a serious attempt at instituting the message that President George W. Bush was delivering to an elementary school in Florida on September 11, 2001."

I have informed President Bush that he will find, in Marion, a shining example of a community embracing the values that have kept America strong through every challenge. The students at Elgin are a source of pride for the community, and serve as an example for the nation.

As Marion's representative in Congress, I am pleased to be able to take this opportunity to recognize the work of the students, Ms. Addison, and the Elgin Local School District.

CELEBRATING THE 15 YEARS OF
REVEREND DR. KENNY SMITH'S
PASTORSHIP

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great citizen of Northern Virginia, Reverend Dr. Kenny Smith. He is currently serving as pastor at the First Baptist Church of Vienna, Virginia. Along with celebrating Rev. Smith's 15 years of service, the Church is celebrating its 134th anniversary of serving the community.

Rev. Kenny Smith is originally from Atlanta, Georgia, and attended the University of Nebraska-Omaha, Howard University, and Virginia Union University.

His resume includes a great deal of other accomplishments. Most recently, he received the Dean's Pastor's Award from the Dean of Howard University's School of Theology and the Outstanding Achievement in Religion Award from the Howard University Alumni Club of Northern Virginia. He is a well traveled man as well. He visited Israel, the seven churches mentioned in Revelation (Turkey), the Isle of Patmos (Greece), as well as 8 other countries.

Reverend Smith currently serves on the General Board of the Baptist General Convention in Richmond, Virginia. He is also on the Board of Directors for Habitat for Humanity. Previously, he held a position with the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP.

Through his leadership, the First Baptist Church has continued its excellence in serving the community. One organization that the church is constantly willing to support is Habitat for Humanity. The members of the church have assisted in building many homes for families in need. The church even helped with the cost of the supplies.

In 1996, members of the church traveled to South Carolina to help in the rebuilding of churches, after several were burned down by acts of arson. And under the guidance of Rev. Smith, members of the church went, along with another local church, to Haiti on a missionary project.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to send my best wishes to Reverend Dr. Kenny Smith for his 15th anniversary with the First Baptist Church of Vienna and wish him the best in his future endeavors. It's been said that a good leader takes a little more than his share of the blame, a little less than his share of the credit. This is the kind of selfless humility that has characterized Reverend Smith's tenure at his church. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating this fine citizen.

IN HONOR OF VERNON K. JONES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Vernon K. Jones in recognition of his remarkable career in business and as an entrepreneur.

Vernon K. Jones is married to Marcella Jones, a dance teacher at JHS 258, in Brooklyn; they have two sons, Vernon Jr. and